TERRELL C. BIRCH RAYMOND C. STEWART JOSEPH A. KOLASCH JAMES M. SLATTERY BERNARD L. SWEENEY* MICHAEL K. MUTTER CHARLES GORENSTEIN GERALD M. MURPHY, JR. GERALD M. MURPHY, JR LEONARD R. SVENSSON TERRY L. CLARK ANDREW D. MEIKLE MARC S. WEINER JOE MCKINNEY MUNCY DOE MENINEY MONCY
ROBERT J. KENNEY
DONALD J. DALEY
JOHN W. BAILEY
JOHN A. CASTELLANO
GARY D. YACURA
THOMAS S. AUCHTERLONIE MARK J. NUELL, PH.D.

1)

OF COUNSEL:
HERBERT M. BIRCH (1905-1996)
ELLIOT A. GOLDBERG*
WILLIAM L. GATES*
EDWARD H. VALANCE
RUPERT J. BRADY (RET.)*
F. PRINCE BUTLER FRED S. WHISENHUNT JAMES W. HELLWEGE ADMITTED TO A BAR OTHER THAN VA.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW 8110 GATEHOUSE ROAD SUITE 500 EAST

FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042-1210 USA

(703) 205-8000

FAX: (703) 205-8050 (703) 698-8590 (G IV)

e-mail: mailroom@bskb.com web: http://www.bskb.com

CALIFORNIA OFFICE COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA JAMES,T. ELLER, JR.
SCOTT L. LOWE
D. RICHARD ANDERSON
PAUL C. LEWIS
MARK W. MILSTEAD*
RICHARD J. GALLAGHER
JAYNE M. SAYDAH*
MARYANNE ARMSTRONG, PH.D.
HYUNG N. SOHN
KECIA J. REYNOLDS
ROBERT L. SCOTT, II
KALPANA REDDY

REG. PATENT AGENTS: FREDERICK R. HANDREN FREDERICK R. HANDREN
MAKI HATSUMI
CRAIG A. MCROBBIE
GARTH M. DAHLEN, PH.D.
ROBERT E. GOOZNER, PH.D.
MATTHEW J. LATTIG
TIMOTHY R. WYCKOFF
KRISTI L. RUPERT, PH.D.
LARRY J. HUME
ALBERT K. LEE
HRAYR A. SAYADIAN, PH.D.
MATTHEW T. SHANLEY
JASON W. RHODES
CHRISTINA F. ANNOCK

Date: May 11, 2001 Docket No.: 0445-0299P

<u>⊉</u> sistant Commissioner for Patents

Box PATENT APPLICATION Washington, D.C. N

₩Sir:

c912

E

Ø

As authorized by the inventor(s), transmitted herewith for filing is a patent application applied for on behalf of the inventor(s) according to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.41(c).

Inventor(s): KASAI, Takao

KONDO, Megumi; SATO, Noriko

MATSUI, Manabu

For: ABSORBENT ARTICLE

Enclosed are:

A specification consisting of 34 pages _X_

X _1 sheet(s) of Formal drawings

X Certified copy of Priority Document(s)

Х Executed Declaration in accordance with 37 CFR 1.64 will follow

Applicant claims small entity status in accordance with 37 CFR 1.27

Preliminary Amendment



<u>X</u>	Information Sheet
	Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 with reference(s)
	Application Data Sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.76
	Other
	Applicant requests early publication

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

			LARGE	ENTITY		SMALL E	NTITY
FOR	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE	******* **********	*******	**** *****	\$710.00	or	**** ****	\$355.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	11 - 20 =	0	x18 =\$	0.00	or	x 9 =	\$ 0.00
INDEPENDENT	3 - 3 =	0	x80 =\$	0.00	or	x 40 =	\$ 0.00
MULTIPLE DI CLAIM PRESI	+270 =	\$ 0.00	or	+135 =	\$ 0.00		
			TOTAL \$	710.00	'	TOTAL	\$ 0.00

- X The application transmitted herewith is filed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.41(c). The undersigned has been authorized by the inventor(s) to file the present application. The original duly executed patent application together with the surcharge will be forwarded in due course.
- \underline{X} A check in the amount of \$\frac{710.00}{1000}\$ to cover the filing fee and recording fee (if applicable) is enclosed.
- ____ The Government Filing Fee will be paid at the time of completion of the filing requirement.
- Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$_____. A triplicate copy of this transmittal form is enclosed.



Send Correspondence to:

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP or Customer No. 2292 P. O. Box 747 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

Telephone: (703) 205-8000

No fee is enclosed.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

JOSEPH A. KOLASCH Reg. No. 22,463

P. O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000 JAK/tf